

50X1-HUM

A Joint Session. Held Early 1951. in Tashkent.  
on the Ore Resources of Central Asia  
Vestnik Akademii Nauk SSSR  
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A JOINT SESSION, HELD EARLY 1951 IN TASHKENT,  
ON THE ORE RESOURCES OF CENTRAL ASIA

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[Complete translation]

The Department of Geologico-Geographical Sciences, Academy of Sciences USSR, and the Department of Technical and Geologico-Chemical Sciences, Academy of Sciences Uzbek SSR, held a joint session in Tashkent. Besides the scientific workers of the Academy of Sciences USSR and the Academy of Sciences Uzbek SSR, representatives of the Academy of Sciences Kazakh SSR, of a number of branches of the Academy of Sciences USSR, departments of scientific-research institutes, prospecting-research institutions, ministries, and also of a number of production organizations (altogether 270 persons) participated.

At the session, problems of ~~poly~~metals, rare metals, iron and so forth were discussed. Numerous reports on ore production, particularly regional metallography and petrology, were discussed.

The reports presented at the session testified to the great interest in the geology and exploitation of Central Asia ore deposits. Large-scale geological investigations and prospecting during the past 15-20 years have accumulated enormous amounts of factual material on geology and metallography of this spacious territory. On the basis of this data, many important theoretical reports, contributing to the theory of ore production were made.

At the session sharp criticism was leveled at such harmful notions as: all deposits were permanently "fixed" by former works and for this reason the opening of any new deposits is "impossible", and the like.

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Some reports remarked on the deficient organization of geological investigations in Central Asia, pointing out their over-simplified investigations, insufficient coordination leading to duplication of efforts and dissipation of scientific energy, and insufficient attention to the study of ore-bearing sedimentary formations. The plain regions of Central Asia, comprising more than 60% of all its territory, have been only slightly studied. Useful deposits associated with sedimentary formations in the Amu-Dar<sup>is</sup> River basin has not yet been studied systematically, although of extraordinary importance to the construction of the Main Turkmen Canal. Liaison between scientific-research and production organizations was found insufficient, which hampers generalization of research data obtained. There are still no metallographic concepts which are universally adopted and affirmed in practice, and prospecting criteria are not decided on scientific bases applicable to individual metals or genetic types of deposits. As was emphasized, some production organizations co-ordinate their works insufficiently with the solution of important practical problems; harmful narrow departmental tendencies are often observed instead of cooperation.

A very serious fault, noted in the reports, is certain harmful preconceptions hindering evaluation of the prospects of various regions and deposits, which hampers the attainment of industrial objectives.

The reports showed that the geological information on Central Asia<sup>is</sup> insufficient in the mineralogy and geochemistry of ore deposits, which paucity of detail in studies on composition of ores does not correspond to the grandiose works on geological prospecting.

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As a result of the session, a relatively complete picture of the main problems of ore geology of Central Asia appeared. The reports, at plenary meetings and in sections (on regional metallography and petrology, polymetals, and sedimentary ore production) in general noted ways for the further development of geological prospecting and scientific research, all directed toward a more rapid exploitation of Central Asia's ore resources.

A number of recommendations relative to individual objectives were worked out.

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